7. Mr. Huner

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MINUTES OF MEFTING OF DIRECTOR AND CONSULTANTS
INTERDEPARTMENTAL FOREIGN INFORMATION ORGANIZATION
NOVEMBER 13, 1950, 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Department of State - Mr. Barrett, Director

Mr. Stone, Executive Secretary

Mr. Phillips
Mr. Connors

Department of Defense - General Magruder Joint Chiefs of Staff - Admiral Stevens Col. Bohnaker

Department of the Army - General McClure

Col. Young

Central Intelligence Agency - Mr. Wisner
National Security Resources Board - Mr. Sheppard
Economic Cooperation Administration - Mr. Berding

Before taking up Item I of the agenda, Mr. Barrett reported briefly on the steps taken to carry out the suggestions and recommendations made at the special meeting on November 6 with respect to Chinese intervention in Korea. He noted that measures were being taken along the lines of suggestion 1 and 2 (re diplomatic approaches and UN resolution). Steps had also been taken to carry out suggestions 4, 5 and 6, but it had not been possible for Ambassador Stewars, due to his illness to broadcast from China. General Magruder reported that he had proceeded with the suggestion for an "open letter" to the Chinese delegation to the UN. Mr. Wisner indicated that he also had proceeded along the lines of suggestion 4, and that reactions had already begun to come in.

With regard to Item I on the agenda, a memorandum prepared jointly by Coi. Bohnaker, Col. Young and Mr. Connors incorporating comments and recommendations regarding psychological warfare in FECOM was distributed for discussion.

At the request of Mr. Barrett, Col. Bohnaker gave a brief description of psychological warfare operations in Tokyo and Korea. He felt that the broad concept of psychological warfare had not been fully understood in the field. Effective coordination in the field had been hampered by the lack of clear-cut assignment of responsibilities, and absence of direct relationship of psychological warfare with operational planning in FEC or FEAF, the lack of prior interdepartmental planning and the shortage of personnel and equipment. He cited several instances of inadequate coordination between the military and the Voice of America in the conduct of psychological warfare.

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State Department review completed

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Col. Young agreed with Col. Bohnaker that the concept of psychological warfare was not fully understood, and was probably too narrowly defined, but he felt that the operation in the field had gotten off to a fairly good start at least in tactical operations. The field organization, while handicapped by lack of personnel and equipment, had nevertheless managed to do a pretty good job in its broadcasting and leaflet operations. He emphasized the need for better area planning, fuller interchange of intelligence between the field and Washington and sharper guidance based on a knowledge of actual conditions in the field.

Mr. Connors stressed the need for clear definition of the functions of USIS and the military, and suggested the need for a plan which would lay down clear-cut responsibilities.

After general discussion covering the whole range of psychological warfare operations in the field, and the problem posed by Chinese intervention, Mr. Barrett suggested the need for three lines of action:

- 1. A document should be prepared for transmission to the field containing major rsychological objectives directed to Communist China, based on current approved assumptions.
- 2. A staff paper should be prepared by IFIS on the lessons drawn from Korea clarifying responsibilities and tasks.
- 3. To provide better coordination between the Voice of America and psychological warfare operations in the field, procedures should be worked out for fuller interchange of current intelligence, local themes, etc. between Washington and Tokyo. The daily telecon messages might be utilized for this purpose.

With regard to Item II on the agenda, Mr. Stone reported briefly on the IFIS staff paper "Analysis of Major Categories and Requirements for Psychological Warfare Planning." It was agreed that a special meeting would be held on Friday, November 17, at 4 p.m., with members of IFIS attending.

With regard to the proposed report on Give Away Radio Receivers, Mr. Barrett reported that an informal IFIS check-up showed that very little planning has been done by other agencies in this field. Neither the Service Departments nor ECA have done enough planning in this field to justify an interdepartmental report on this subject by IFIS. It is recommended, therefore, that the State Department report on plans for Give Away Radios, together with the study of the problem by ______group, be made the basis for further recommendations in this field. The State Department reports will be made available as they are completed.

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